

**BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
1/13/20**

The Regular Meeting Minutes of Council was held on **Monday, January 13, 2020** at 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers, 125 S. Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

Presiding: Bryon Reed: President of Council

Recording Secretary: Jason Ruff, Vice President

The meeting was called to order by President Reed at 7:00 pm following in attendance:

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Bryon Reed
Jason Ruff
Joseph Wechsler
Thomas Bartholomew
Kevin Steckel

ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor Niedermeyer
David Rachman
Dave Lear
Ed Healy
David Schnaars
Ronald Kratz

VISITORS

Jason Nicholas Mathew Peters
Tammy Peters Robert Herzog Jr
Daniel Stevens Robert Stettner
Shawn Leadbetter

President Reed announced that all public sessions of Borough Council are electronically recorded and such recordings are maintained as part of the meeting record until the minutes are transcribed and approved by the Board, at which time the recordings shall be erased.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Councilor Ruff made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve the following minutes: Council Meeting – December 9, 2019; Committee Meetings – December 16, 2019 and December 23, 2019; Special Meeting – December 23, 2019. President Reed declared the motion passed with following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Agenda and Non-Agenda items) You will have three minutes to address Council from the podium. The three minutes applies to your time at the podium. If you exit the podium, you have yielded the floor, and any time you have remaining.

Shawn Leadbetter – 1260 Oakhurst Drive - Signed in and was recognized to speak. Shawn introduced himself to the council. He is a police officer in the Lehigh Valley. He moved to Slatington in 2018. Shawn would like to put his name in for one of the council positions, now or in the future.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

REPORTS

The reports of various committees, officials and officers were provided to Council and are on file in Borough Hall and are available for public inspection.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/TRANSFER

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to approve payment of the bills and transfers as presented by the Treasurer. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

ABSTAIN

Bryon Reed
Jason Ruff
Joseph Wechsler
Thomas Bartholomew
Kevin Steckel

MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF'S REMARKS

Mayor Walter H. Niedermeyer

Mayor Niedermeyer stated he was against the way the council appointed the two councilors. He felt they should have advertised and given it another month. In addition, no letters of intent were submitted. However, the mayor will swear the new councilors in tonight. Councilor Ruff informed the mayor that councilors had spoken to the candidates and did understand their intent. Mayor Niedermeyer administered the oath to David Schnaars and Ronald Kratz for council.

Chief Rachman

Chief Rachman informed the council of the Lehigh County Police Chief Association formed a consortium for testing police officer positions in Lehigh County. Initially they had 139 applicants, that paid the \$75.00 fee to take the test, but not all showed up; approximately 100 tested. After the physical agility test, they were down to approximately 51-52 candidates for all 12 departments. There are approximately 24 candidates that will be interviewed for the Slatington Police Department. Chief Rachman has put a panel together for the interviews, which may be held February 19th.

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

Councilor David Schnaars

None

B. Public Safety

Councilor Kevin Steckel

None

C. Human/Community Services

Councilor Jason Ruff

1. Councilor Ruff made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve dates for Community Yard Sales: Friday, May 15th, Saturday, May 16th, Sunday, May 17th, and Friday, September 11th, Saturday, September 12th, Sunday, September 13th, 2020. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
2. Councilor Ruff made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to appoint Robert Stettner to the Parks and Recreation Commission for 2 years, expires 2023. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
3. Councilor Ruff made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve 2020 Electronic Recycling dates: Saturday, April 4, 2020 and Saturday, October 10, 2020. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

D. Finance

Councilor Thomas Bartholomew

1. Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to authorize President Reed to approve Exemption request from Statewide Tax Recovery Inc. for Delinquent Per Capita Tax for: Kristen Jaap – non-resident - \$11.00. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

2. Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Weschler to adopt Resolution R-04-20 *Slatington Borough appointment of Borough's bank signatories on all Slatington Borough bank accounts*. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Jason Ruff		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Dave Schnaars		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		

3. Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Kratz, to appoint Open Records Officer. Councilor Bartholomew asked Dan Stevens if he would be interested in this position.
4. Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to appoint Dave Schnaars as Council Chaplain. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

Councilor Joseph Wechsler

1. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to accept quote from A. Hearn Engineering for upgrading pump station existing interface and PLC platform for \$12,700. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Jason Ruff		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Dave Schnaars		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		

2. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to accept quote from Hearn Engineering for upgrading recirculation station existing interface and PLC platform for \$13,100 for PLC upgrade; Option 1 upgrade remote DTAM for \$3,100 – total \$16,200. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Jason Ruff		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Dave Schnaars		

Thomas Bartholomew
Ronald Kratz
Kevin Steckel

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

Councilor Ronald Kratz

1. Water Test Statement - Water was tested and found safe for human consumption
2. Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to approve Shadow Oaks Lane contract change order for \$58,832.50. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed Jason Ruff Joseph Wechsler Dave Schnaars Thomas Bartholomew Ronald Kratz Kevin Steckel		

3. Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve quote from LRM Incorp. For Archer Instruments for \$3,000.00 and Eagle Microsystems – chlorine cylinder scale for \$1,350.00; total \$4,350.00. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed Jason Ruff Joseph Wechsler Dave Schnaars Thomas Bartholomew Ronald Kratz Kevin Steckel		

4. Councilor Kratz wanted to thank Tom Nicholson for his free labor regarding placement of the camera in the filtration plant (informational only)
5. Shadow Oaks waterline project – the paving will be discussed at a later date.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Appointing Open Records Officer

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Bartholomew, to re-advertise revised meeting schedule for 2020 – changed F/PS/HCS to the 3rd Monday of each month and

W/S/H to the 4th Monday of each month. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

Councilor Ruff asked if there have been any borough manager applications submitted.

Dan Stevens informed the council he is not interested in becoming the Open Records Officer.

Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Kratz, to appoint President Reed Open Records Officer. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT: None

Bryon Reed

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR – (Agenda Items Only – You will have two (2) minutes to address Council from the podium on Agenda Items Only.) **None**

EXECUTIVE SESSION –None

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Councilor Schnaars made the motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to adjourn the meeting. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

President Reed declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Colleen Bresnak
Assistant Borough Secretary